He called attention to the peculiar way in which the arm hung, slightly forward, which seemed to indicate something more than simple paresis. Doctor Lorenz recommended exercise and games, such as handball and tennis, and forcible backward movements, so that the joint might become adductible. He recommended for exercise boring holes in a board with a gimlet. After getting all the help possible from muscular development it would be well to do an osteotomy to relieve the deformity.

The next case presented a rather unusual condition of ankylosis of the right wrist. Doctor Davis was the patient, and he received the injury while returning from the Philippines. In playing a game he fell with some men on top of him and suffered a severe sprain. He did not suffer at the time and there was nothing broken. Adhesions were broken up nine months ago. An X-ray plate had been taken the day before the present meeting, which showed the condition very clearly. Doctor Lorenz recommended forcible attempts at movement and exercise with dumb-bells. This he thought would give some relief. He would not advise an operation.

Two cases of spastic paralysis, showing nothing unusual, were also presented and examined.

Later in the morning of the same day Professor Lorenz, accompanied by a number of other doctors, visited the Children's Hospital and operated upon some children with congenital dislocations of the hip.

The first patient was a child eight or nine years of age. The only thing done, on account of the child's advanced age, was to change the dislocation from posterior to anterior, which will result in a slight improvement.

The next patient was a child six years of age. The right hip was reduced with very little trouble, but the left hip was more rebellious and required over a half hour to reduce. Doctor Lorenz announced that the operation will ultimately be successful. A plaster cast was put on the patient, and is to remain for six months.

It may be here stated that one of the points of difference between Professor Lorenz' operation and that practiced by Americans is the length of time the cast is allowed to remain intact. The tendency of American surgeons is to change the plaster cast every few weeks and not allow it to remain on for six months. Lorenz, moreover, applies the plaster over a pair of woolen drawers.

THE ALEUTS: SOME HYGIENIC OBSERVATIONS BY A LAYMAN.

By W. F. B.

AMONG those who have taken upon themselves the care and assistance of the Aleutian race, the problem of health is rapidly becoming of first importance. It is a fact that the ability of the Aleut to withstand the rigors of the climate and to survive the ravages of disease is steadily declining, and each succeeding year gives new proof of his failing physical condition.

Whatever he has been, just now the Aleut is anything but a robust specimen of manhood. He was never large, but the few traditions that have filtered down through the years tell of strength and prowess in war and in the hunt; and tales of physical endurance, of long sieges of hunger and thirst, and rapid journeys on foot over the roughest country of the northwest, seem to indicate that he was never lacking in bodily strength. Even now, hunters who have experience in many lands say that the natives from the Cook's Inlet country, when they can be persuaded to work, are the best packers in the world, and in the days of the otter hunting, not so many years ago, natives would pull steadily at the oars of the otter boats for days at a time; yet, with all that, a touch of the measles or a suggestion of the grip or any pulmonary trouble will wipe out whole villages in a few days.

The natives are peculiarly subject to lung troubles. Consumption is rampant among them, and they hand it down from generation to generation until practically all those along the coast and in the more accessible villages show the trace of its touch. Two years ago an epidemic of measles ran through the country from the Bering sea to southeastern Alaska, leaving hundreds of dead in its track. In some villages sixty per cent of the inhabitants died, and in others practically none were left. The grip, too, has had its own way among them.

In all these epidemics this fact is left clear and undisputed—wherever the Aleut has come in contact with the white man, there is the greatest mortality, and this has led to the belief among missionaries, government officials, and physicians who have watched the natives, that the change in the life of the Aleut is working his downfall. Before the entrance of the white man into the country he lived on oil procured from whales, seals and sharks—whale blubber, seal fat, fish, berries, roots, and even grass. He had no flour, no canned meat, no tea, no sugar, and no spirits. He clothed himself in skins and was warm. Now he wears a cotton shirt, cotton underwear and overalls, with perhaps the addition of an old coat for the winter months. It is believed by many, however, that the decline of the native's health is due more to his change of diet than to his present lack of warm clothing.

The reason for this is, that up to a certain point

the native seems unaffected by exposure. Along the southern coast, where the winter months are comparatively mild, the children will run barefooted through the snow until the temperature drops far below the freezing point. Buttoning the coat that was worn open is the only protection they ask from the wind, and men, women and children seem utterly indifferent to wet clothing. They are never far from the water, and they are always wet, but all they ask is to be allowed to sit in their own steam beside a fire not always warm enough to heat the ill-smelling little sod huts they like to live in.

These little huts, called barrabaras, are built without regard to ventilation or sanitation. They stand in little groups, and when the surroundings become too foul the people move. The main room in the barrabara is generally floored with dry grass. A hole is cut in the roof, and just below is the fireplace. In an adjoining room the inmates sleep, all together, and this is generally reached by a very low door. It may have a window, but this cannot be opened. It sometimes has a board floor, but it always reeks with the dampness of years and the entire absence of ventilation which is characteristic of even the best of them. The natives will sit in these houses and stew over the fire, and then they will go out into the cold, cutting air in their thin garments and cool themselves until they are blue in the fingers. But it never seems to harm them much until the end comes. Some day they have a slight cough. It increases, and then soon the news goes round the village that another man is spitting blood. They never last long, nor do they make any effort to help themselves. They continue the old course of life until they are too weak to leave their beds. The priest is sent for, and he prays over them. Some one watches by their side, but no one has any hope for them, and the end comes soon. When the Aleut has made up his mind that he is going to die, it is only a question of time, nor do any of his relatives or friends try to rouse him from his despair.

The effects of exposure were not so fatal during the early history of the race, although the natives were quite as indifferent to their comfort, nor was it as noticeable later when they began to discard their skin clothing; and in the more remote places, where the natives wear a good deal of the white man's clothing, but still adhere to their old delicacies—blubber and oil—the effects of exposure are not serious. This has led to the statement by at least one missionary, who has spent nearly his life among them, that it would be better if all the food of the white man were taken from the Aleut and he should be sent back to the gastronomic condition where he poured whale oil over his berries and ate the mess with gusto.

Outside of consumption, the grip and the measles, the native seems unaffected by disease to any great extent—that is, with the exception of syphillis. This is rife among them—another gift of the white man. All the conditions in which typhoid fever would love to revel are present in any Alaskan native village, but there has been no typhoid fever to speak of. Perhaps it is that the winters are too cold. In fact, the filth diseases that infect even the cleanest cities are hardly present in Alaska, at least among the natives. There are not many cases of deformity, nor is there any insanity. Perhaps it might be said there are not many who have the brains to become insane.

There are a few native doctors—part "medicine men" and part physician—who treat small aches and pains with herbs and incantations. There is a rough kind of surgery among them, but it is able to deal only with small things—a spear-head in the hand, the spike of a fox-trap in the leg, knife wounds and hurts of that kind—but they have no knowledge of cleanliness. They like to consult a physician whenever possible, and they like to take medicine, the more vile tasting the better. In fact, there are several medicines that they take as beverages. These are patent preparations rich in alcohol, which they know well, and with which they dose themselves to the point of intoxication—their purpose in taking the dose. They will get drunk, also, on cologne and Jamaica ginger. Florida water is a favorite drink with them, and they will have only the best when possible, as a man would ask for his favorite brand of whisky. But they are not particular when the supply is limited. Then they make a drink of their own—a kind of beer, and this they sometimes distill—when they can do so secretly, for it is against the law, or when the supply of beer is plentiful enough to give every man and woman what they want and still leave enough for the distilling kettle.

The drink, and particularly the food, are blamed for the decline of the Aleut. The best proof of this is the course of the measles, two years ago, through the reservations and the missions. There the natives were well clothed and were kept temperate, but they lived on the food of the white man, and when the epidemic had passed, there was but a remnant of them left. Practically every one upon whom the disease alighted lay down and died.

A newspaper dispatch states that the Washington, D. C., coroner performed an autopsy on the body of Miss Louise Hoge of Evanston, Ill., who had been under treatment of a Christian Scientist several weeks for typhoid fever, and who died at the Capital. The result of the autopsy was a decision that Miss Hoge died of pneumonia.

According to the Los Angeles *Express*, an unknown capitalist has supplied funds with which to establish a hospital for the treatment of deformed children by the Lorenz method.

Petaluma is to have a new sanitarium and hospital. Miss I. R. Cox, a trained nurse of experience, who recently rented the Phillips home on Sixth street, is at the head of the enterprise. A feature of the hospital will be an operating room which will be at the disposal of all local physicians.—Petaluma Argus.